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THE French have just given the pig-tail another pull.

THE Harvard students are making desperate efforts to retain foot-ball as one of the allowable college sports. Had the boys mingled less John Sullivanism with their foot-ball of late these efforts might not have been necessary.

THE Buffalo Telegraph thinks that "lady," "gentleman" and "Hon." are "greatly overworked." If the Telegraph refers to the words merely, it is correct, but if to the articles which the words represent there is certainly no over-production in the market.

THAT wealthy New York lady, Mme. Mandelbaum, seems to have been guilty of a breach of professional etiquette. It appears that she went to Canada without retubing her bonnet.

The press of the metropolis is considerably excited over the matter, and thinks she should be extradited and court-martialed for conduct unbecoming a thief and a lady.

GES. GRANT, like the modest and brave man that he is, has written a letter which Mr. Mitchell, of Connecticut, read in the House of Representatives yesterday, expressing the hope that the bill introduced to give him a pension would be withdrawn, as under no circumstances could he accept a pension. The wish was complied with and the bill withdrawn. The General is wiser at some times than at others.

SOMETIMES it is well to look the stable door after the horse is stolen, especially if there are horses remaining in the barn. A considerable portion of the population as well as of the business of Italy having been destroyed by the cholera, the government now proposes to spend \$20,000,000 upon sanitary improvements in Naples. This amount spent before the cholera appeared might have prevented its coming at all. Still, a few thousand people can be spared from Naples without making wages exorbitantly high.

THE bill introduced in Congress by Senator McPherson to suspend the coinage of the silver dollar, provides that on and after the passage of the act the coinage of silver dollars shall be suspended; that the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized and directed not to re-issue any United States notes of a denomination less than \$5, and cancel and destroy all United States notes of a less denomination than \$5, and cease engraving and printing all such notes. It authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, upon the deposit of silver bullion in the sub-treasury as he shall designate, to issue to the depositor thereof silver certificates having upon their face the weight and market value of the metal so deposited calculated in United States gold dollars at the rate of twenty-five and eight-tenths standard grains to the dollar. The Secretary is also authorized and required on the presentation of any silver certificates issued under the provisions of the act by the legal holders thereof, to redeem the same by delivering to the depositors silver bullion of the weight and fineness certified upon the certificate, and immediately cancel and destroy such certificates.

A NATIONAL BANKRUPT LAW.

A national bankrupt law is necessary for the interests of all classes engaged in business, more especially for the mercantile classes. In many cases, indeed the great majority of cases, commercial transactions take place between citizens or firms residing in different states and separated by long distances. Without a national bankrupt law each state is free to enact laws relating to insolvencies. In one state we have one system and in another a different system, and in some none at all. At best state laws are ineffectual and parties cannot under them have that equality which it should be the purpose of such law to secure. State insolvent laws apply only to contracts made between citizens of the state. They do not apply to contracts made within the state between a citizen of the state and a citizen of another state, nor to contracts made within the state. A bankrupt law should be so framed as to effect two results:

1. The distribution of the debtor's property among his creditors in proportion to their claims.

2. The discharge of the debtor from his liabilities when his property is thus appropriated.

It should provide for the administration and settlement of the estate in an expeditious and economical manner. A national bankrupt law operative in all the states alike and administered by the federal courts, can give jurisdiction over all parties, debtors and creditors, and enforce the rights of all. Creditors in all parts of the country would under such a

law stand upon an equal footing. Frauds would be to a great extent made impossible. No law, however, can absolutely prevent frauds, but the opportunities for perpetrating them may be restricted. Concealment of property, mortgages to relations, fictitious claims created in favor of relations and friends are the most frequent and most dangerous fraud by which creditors suffer. On the other hand an honest debtor should be protected from unnecessary hardships. Now his property may be subjected to the claims of one creditor, and he be left stripped of his property and under a load of debt. A bankrupt law which will enable creditors to have the property fairly distributed, and under which the unfortunate debtor may obtain a full discharge when he has honestly set over his property, will be beneficial to both alike. There is but one law that can prevent frauds, and that is one that will make all men honest. That frauds may be committed even under the wisest law that can be framed, is no reason for refusing to enact a law. The large majority of unfortunate men are honest, and any bankrupt law will be found to prevent wrong and injustice to a far greater extent than can be committed under it. The Lowell bill which was passed by the Senate at the last session, and which is now before the House, should receive the attention of that body at this session. It is carefully framed, has received the approval of those who understand the requirements of such a law, and no reason exists why action upon it should be delayed.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Syracuse Standard: Arthur's advice on the tariff does not help him loom up as a candidate for Senator.

Philadelphia Times: Many a Democrat would like the job of counting the surplus to see if it's all there.

Louisville Courier-Journal: Mr. Randall's views on taxation are not in accordance with those of the President-elect.

Somerset Herald: "Here's a turkey for me and a crow for you, and a crow for you and a turkey for me," says the Democrat as he divides with his little Independent brother.

Chicago Inter-Ocean: Colonel Samuel, father-in-law of Frank James, the Missouri outlaw, is circulating a petition among his friends, asking President-elect Cleveland to appoint him postmaster at Independence, Mo. In view of distinguished service to the party by the bandit son-in-law, it is thought the petition will be granted.

New York Herald: If there are provisions of the constitution which prevent the possible extirpation of polygamy in Utah by the civil law, we believe that the people of the United States are willing to amend their constitution to enable the application of martial law; and it has long been our conviction, and frequently has been expressed, that the strong arm of the military alone is competent to the task.

New York Sun: Of the many New York gentlemen who wish or hope to be senator, Chairman Warren would bring into the Senate the freshest knowledge of campaign management; the Hon. Leslie W. Russell the handsomest figure; Frank Hiscock the most polished intimacy with parliamentary law; Chamcey Depew the largest fund of humor and the most violent opposition to the Thurman bill; Levi P. Morton the greatest amount of business shrewdness and material devotion to the Republican party; Our Own Everts the most tortuous eloquence, and Gen. Arthur the most level head. Roscoe Conkling wouldn't bring anything, because he won't come.

CRABBING ROMANCE.

The Place Where Life is Simple, and Where Brides Go Barefooted.

[Fair Haven (N. J.) Letter.]

The natives of the Shrewsbury River have many simple joys that the dwellers in cities know not and can not feel. In the lengthening shadow of the western bluff the gossip fishwife points out the bridal couple returning from the crabbing grounds. The bride, with bare feet and abbreviated skirts, wades through the shallow water by her husband's side. The crabs in the basket which she carries plays the hide-and-go-seek with her shoes and stockings, the sun kisses her blushing cheeks, and the wind tosses her hair in fitful waves about well-rounded shoulders, whose graceful curves even an ill-fitting calico dress can not conceal. In the fading light the crabber's dip net takes to itself the semblance of an ancient warrior's spear, the crab basket becomes the conquering shield, the happy bridegroom and bride are transformed into the gallant knight and his love of the days of long ago. As the shadows deepen and stretch out to meet the dim, dark outline of the distant hills looming up against the sky, the watcher on the bluff leans forward with the half-defined hope that the happy bridegroom will slay:

My love is young and fair;

My love hath golden hair;

With eyes so blue and heart so true

That none with her compare.

But there is no sound save the murmur of the water on the shore and the creak of a swinging sail as a schooner rides at anchor.

A Cynical Bachelor Discourse.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.]

There are women who know how to kill several birds with one stone. Two women will select a muddy day and plant themselves on the crossing, standing abreast so that nobody can pass, one way or the other, without going around in the mud. The blockaded people suppose that the "ladies" have stopped to get on the street car, which is half a square away. So does the driver think they have stopped to get on the street car, and he slacks up. The blockaded people and the car-driver have both made a mistake. The "ladies" have only stopped because they were afraid of the car, half a square away, would run over them. The car having passed, and they, having put everybody to as much trouble possible, suddenly move on, in look for another crossing where a car may be waiting. And still there are persons in this world who chatter about the brutality of a man who hits a woman.

A VISION OF THE NIGHT.

The Sanguinary Vagary of a Dreamer.

He Dreamed He Killed a Man and Going to the Spot Found That His Vision Was a Dreadful Reality.

[Connellsville (Pa.) Special.]

"I've had such a awful dream," was the frightful exclamation of Rice Orbin, son of Henry Orbin, who resides near Connellsville, Pa., as he entered the breakfast room last Monday morning. "I dreamed that I shot a man when I was out hunting last Thursday. I can see him now just as plain as day—an oldish man, with a bullet through his head and the blood and brains oozing out."

This sanguinary story of the dreamer was laughed at by his relatives, but their merriness did not drive away his haggard countenance. As soon as he had finished his breakfast he started for Connellsville. He succeeded in persuading a young man named Jones to accompany him, and the two started for the scene of Young Orbin's hunting, about five miles up the Youghiogheny River. Arriving at the spot where his last load was fired, they traced the direction of the bullet as near as they could imagine its course, and on the hill side, about 250 yards away, behind a dense thicket of laurel, stiff and cold in death, the horrified searchers found the body of a man, apparently about fifty years of age. He was lying on his face. Through the brain was the fatal bullet wound described by young Orbin as seen in his dream. Between the legs of the corpse was a rifle. The position of the dead man indicated that he had been standing with his back to the man who had shot him and had fallen forward on his face. The bullet entered the base of the brain and came out of the forehead. Young Orbin described his shot by saying that he had fired at a squirrel, the range of his gun being in the direction of the laurel thicket. He missed the squirrel. It then began to rain and he crossed the river and went home.

Having found the corpse young Orbin and his companion returned to town and informed the authorities. Justice Richard Campbell impelled a jury of inquest, who visited the spot. The body was identified as that of Jacob Klink and removed to Connellsville. The inquest adjourned for a further hearing. The tragedy was the sole topic of conversation on the streets, and the popular opinion was that the supernatural dream of young Orbin may have been based on previous knowledge. In other words that he had accidentally shot Klink and knew of it at the time, but, out of fright, kept silent until now. Opposed to this was the fact, backed by the testimony of his neighbors, that he betrayed no uneasiness. His previous excellent character is also a point in his favor. Klink was an old Union soldier. For some years past he had resided alone in a little bark-roofed shanty, not more than one hundred yards from the scene of his death. On his person was found \$657 in cash. Several of his neighbors, however, say that he was in town last week and drew some money from the bank, Orbin, the dreamer, is about twenty-two years of age, rather under size, light hair, smooth face and large gray eyes. He has been put under bail to await the result of the inquest. At the inquest a mountaineer named Ridenour swore that he had seen Klink alive the day after Orbin had been hunting. His statement created a profound sensation, for if true it proves that not Orbin, but another, killed Klink. The verdict was that Klink came to his death at the hands of a person or persons unknown. The case is certainly most remarkable.

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